

Easement

T-661
Freedom's Friend Lodge, 1024
St. Michaels
private

1883

The Freedom's Friend Lodge, 1024, is a prominent historic site for the black community of St. Michaels. The two-story rectangular frame structure was erected in 1883 for the Freeman's Friend Lodge of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. Paralleling white fraternal organizations of the mid to late nineteenth century, a group of black men living in St. Michaels chartered lodge 1024 in 1867, two years after the end of the Civil War. The initial officers of the lodge were Joseph Johnson, Noble Grant; Robert Bunn (?) Noble Father; William Skinner, Vice Grand; and Daniel Chaney, Secretary. In the same year the group purchased the Fremont Street lot for \$350. Evidently the lot was improved at the time of the transfer. The lodge members replaced their initial meeting hall with the two-story structure in 1883, and a few enlargements have extended the building westward over the past one-hundred years. Not only does the building represent the black Odd Fellows lodge and its history over the past century, but the structure is one of the few nineteenth-century black lodge buildings to survive in use in Talbot County.

Easement

DOE yes no

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-661

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Freedom's Friend Lodge of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows stands on the west side of Fremont Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, two-bay frame building faces east with the gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in 1883, the rectangular frame lodge building is supported by a brick pier foundation, and it is sheathed with a layer of asphalt shingles over weatherboards. The medium pitched asphalt shingle roof has slightly extended eaves with short returns.

The east (main) two-bay elevation has a center entrance filled with a replacement door. The second floor is marked by a pair of six-over-six sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. Hanging between the door and the second floor windows is a sign that reads, "Freedom's Friend Lodge 1024." Fixed in the northeast corner of the foundation is the datestone inscribed, "A.D. 1883."

The south elevation is an asymmetrical facade six bays deep with a combination of six-over-six sash windows and a single door. The eastern three bays of the building comprise the initial lodge building, while the western three bays were later additions. A seam in the brick piers between sections and a shift in the type of window points to the various periods. The most recent addition was the two-bay raising of the rear part to a roof height even with the main block. This section is sheathed with a different type of asphalt shingles, and the windows are of a smaller size. There is a modern concrete block stove stack that rises between the second and third bay from the east.

The north side of the building is finished in a similar manner with less windows, however a block stack rises against the exterior wall as well. Attached to the west end of the building is a single-story one room section that is lighted also by six-over-six sash windows, and a rear four-panel door pierces the north side.

The interior has been partially remodeled but surviving on the first floor is beaded board wainscoting, and a small stage is fixed in the rear of the room. Access to the second floor is provided by two stairs; the main stair is located in the southeast corner, whereas the second stair rises against the north wall next to the stage. The lodge meeting room, located on the second floor, is fitted with nineteenth-century painted furniture with Odd Fellows lodge symbolism.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-661

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1883 Builder/Architect Freemans Lodge

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Freedom's Friend Lodge, 1024 is a prominent historic site for the black community of St. Michaels. The two-story rectangular frame structure was erected in 1883 for the Freeman's Friend Lodge of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows. Paralleling white fraternal organizations of the mid to late nineteenth century, a group of black men living in St. Michaels chartered lodge 1024 in 1867, two years after the end of the Civil War. The initial officers of the lodge were Joseph Johnson, Noble Grand; Robert Bunn (?) Noble Father; William Skinner, Vice Grand; and Daniel Chaney, Secretary. In the same year the group purchased the Fremont Street lot for \$350 (73/278). Evidently the lot was improved at the time of the transfer. The lodge replaced their initial meeting hall with the two-story lodge in 1883, and a few enlargements have extended the building westward over the past one-hundred years. Not only does the building represent the black Odd Fellows lodge and its history over the past century, but the building is one of the few known nineteenth-century black lodge buildings to survive in use in Talbot County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-661

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 6/20/88

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone (301) 651-1094

city or town Westover

state MD 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

FREEDOM'S FRIEND LODGE

T-661
~~T-639~~

YEAR: 1867 VOL: 73 PAGE: 278

FROM: William Green PRICE: \$350

TO: Freemens' Friend Lodge, Grand United Order Odd Fellows

NOTES The officers of the lodge were Joseph Johnson, Noble Grand; Robert Bunn (? Noble Father; William Skinner, Vice Grand; Daniel Chaney, Secretary. The title of the lodge was Fremmans Friend Lodge Number 1024 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows.

Begins at a stone at the East corner of a lot leased by R. C. Lane, agent for Samuel A. Harrison to J. A. D. (?) Haddaway; run with saidSW 120 feet; then SE 60 feet; then NE 120 feet to the beginning (!)

Same lot leased by Samuel A. Harrison to John W. Dean for 99 years 1855, 66/323.

YEAR: 1865 VOL: 72 PAGE: 87

FROM: Elizabeth A. Dean PRICE: \$350

TO: William Green

NOTES The same lot as above but deed contains the phrase "with improvements" before the usual statement of buildings, etc.

Leased by Samuel A. Harrison to John W. Dean 1855, 66/323.

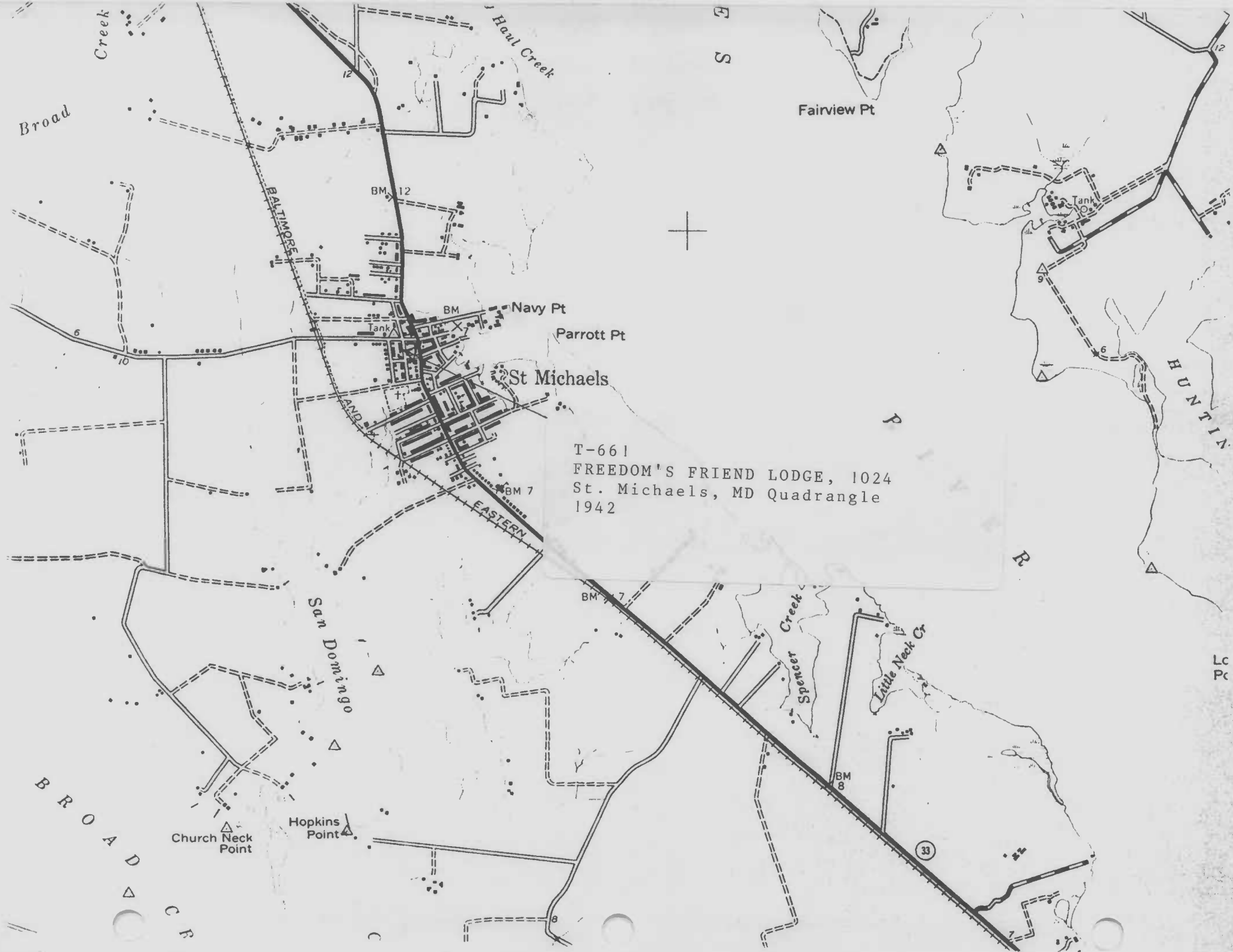
YEAR: 1855 VOL: 66 PAGE: 323

FROM: Samuel A. Harrison PRICE: Lease

TO: John W. Dean

NOTES First subdivision of this lot. "Part of "Canton Farm". Same description 60 x 120. Begins at Haddaway.

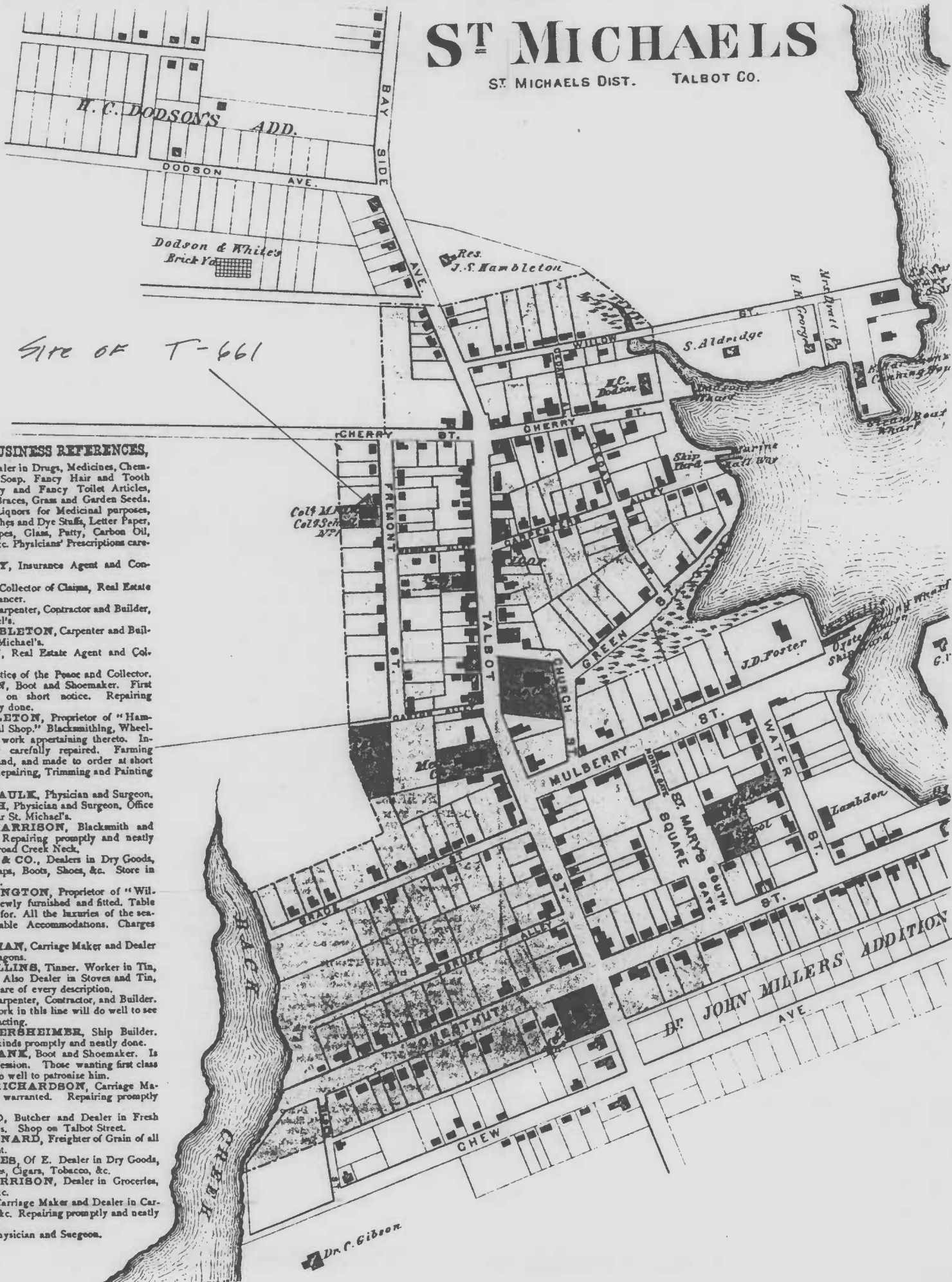
The lot was within the boundary of "Joseph's Lot" or "Stopper". Part of the land bought by Samuel Harrison from the other heirs of Joseph Harrison in 1802 (29/354). Samuel left it to Alexander B. Harrison who in turn, passed it to his son Samuel Alexander Harrison. Joseph Harrison secured the property by a resurvey of "Stopper" which he called "Joseph's Lot" in 1745



T-661
FREEDOM'S FRIEND LODGE, 1024
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942

ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.



ST. MICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES.

DODSON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth Brushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles, Cases, Shoulder-Braces, Gram and Garden Seeds, Fine Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil, Pipes, Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions carefully Compounded.

HADDAWAY, Insurance Agent and Conveyancer.

W. DEAN, Collector of Claims, Real Estate Agent and Conveyancer.

IS DYOTT, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.

ED H. HAMBLETON, Carpenter and Builder, Shop at St. Michael's.

ES BROWN, Real Estate Agent and Collector of Claims.

SPALDING, Justice of the Peace and Collector.

SMITHMAN, Boot and Shoemaker. First class work done on short notice. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

IS HAMBLETON, Proprietor of "Hambleton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheelwrighting, and all work appertaining thereto. In-estate Machinery carefully repaired. Farming implements on hand, and made to order at short notice. Carriage Repairing, Trimming and Painting Specially.

WILLIAM CAULK, Physician and Surgeon.

JAMES BETH, Physician and Surgeon, Office and Residence near St. Michael's.

LIAM S. HARRISON, Blacksmith and Wagon Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.

J. NEAVITT & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in Broad Creek Neck.

N T. HARRINGTON, Proprietor of "Williams House," Newly furnished and fitted. Table carefully catered for. All the luxuries of the season. Ample Stable Accommodations. Charges moderate.

NIEL J. KILMAN, Carriage Maker and Dealer in all kinds of Wagons.

GEORGE W. COLLINS, Turner. Worker in Tin, Sheet Iron, &c. Also Dealer in Stoves and Tin, and Sheet Iron ware of every description.

E. BLADES, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.

SEPH HERGERSHEIMER, Ship Builder. Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.

IVER FAIRBANK, Boot and Shoemaker. Is skillful in his profession. Those wanting first class work done will do well to patronize him.

RISON & RICHARDSON, Carriage Makers. All work warranted. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

J. HOLLAND, Butcher and Dealer in Fresh Meats of all kinds. Shop on Talbot Street.

PT. C. R. LEONARD, Freighter of Grain of all kinds to any point.

OMAS BLADES, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.

SEMI HARRISON, Dealer in Groceries, Confectionery, &c.

S. KILMON, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

A. DODSON Physician and Surgeon.



T-661

FREEDOM'S FRIEND LODGE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

South elevation

3/88, Paul Touart, photographer



T-661

FREEDOM'S FRIEND LODGE

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

Southeast elevation

3/88, Paul Touart, photographer



T-661

FREEDOM'S FRIEND LODGE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

South elevation

3/88, Paul Touart, photographer



T-661

FREEDOM'S FRIEND LODGE

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

South elevation

3/88, Paul Touart, photographer